

Torrance, California
September 26, 1950

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall on September 26, 1950, at 8:00 p.m., Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:
COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. Also present was City Manager Stevens.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Spelman moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 12th and the Adjourned Regular Meeting of September 19th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk Bartlett read the following:

Letter from Walteria Civic Organization giving report of its delegates to the Board of Directors of the Veterans' Emergency Rentals, Inc., and recommending the Flight Strip Project be closed. Councilman Spelman moved a committee of the Council be appointed to meet with the group to study the situation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried. Mayor Haggard then appointed Councilmen Powell, Spelman and Blount as the committee to study the problem.

Letter from Superintendent of Schools Hull expressing appreciation for the Council's cooperation in granting use of the Auditorium for the annual joint meeting of the Advisory Committee and Faculty. Matter of record.

Mayor Haggard stated the Mormon Church had recently been charged \$45 for use of the Auditorium when similar groups had paid no rental and asked that the matter be looked into. Clerk Bartlett advised he would check the records and report at the next Council meeting.

Letter from Superintendent of Schools Hull advising the Board of Education was proceeding with its plans to construct an upper grade elementary school on the Fern Avenue Park site. Matter of record.

Request from John R. Todd, 22704 Ocean Ave., for permission to occupy tent and trailer during construction of home. Councilman Powell moved the request be granted if a building permit has been obtained and that permittee be advised permission is granted to occupy trailer only for 90 days. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Claim from Eugene Erbetta, 2607 Arlington Ave., for damages to adding machine caused by City's tree cutting crew allowing limb to fall. Councilman Drale moved the communication be referred to the City Attorney and insurance carrier. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from Civil Service Board approving 30-days sick leave for Elmer Moon. Councilman Drale moved the request for 30-days sick leave be granted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Letter from F. C. Butcher declining position of City Engineer because of inadequate salary. Matter of record.

Letter from State Disaster Council advising our local disaster council was accredited on September 12th. Matter of record.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick advising that Property Management Corp. wished to reduce its Tract No. 14545 to 45 lots, and recommended approval. Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Associated Telephone Company re application for increased rates. Councilman Drale moved the City Manager write the Public Utilities Commission protesting any increase in rates, and that the letter also be signed by the Mayor. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Request for renewal of lease covering two foot strip along Torrance Blvd. between Border and Western Avenues between Pacific Electric Railway Co. and the City of Torrance. Councilman Spelman moved the lease be renewed. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letters from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick re Tract Map No. 16962 and Tract Map No. 13028. Discussion followed and as both tracts involve cesspools and septic tanks, and in view of cesspool trouble in other areas, Councilman Blount moved the matters be tabled for further study. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried. Councilman Powell moved that any and all tract maps not providing sewer connections and under consideration by the Council be tabled to a meeting called by the City Engineer to discuss the problem. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from the Planning Commission as follows:

CASE NO. 202: Petition of W. Verburg for a Variance and Conditional Permit to build an addition to the present building, which is to be used as a sales room to sell milk and dairy products to the retail trade, and which is located at 2093 West 174th Street in an A-1 (Light Agricultural) Zone. The Commission unanimously recommends approval of this petition.

Councilman Drale moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

CASE NO. 203: Petition of St. Andrews' Episcopal Church to make an addition to present building located at 1432 Engracia Avenue, which is to be erected a distance of 3' from the side property line abutting the Woman's Club. The Commission unanimously recommends approval of this petition.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

SPECIAL REQUEST: The request of Luis Monson to establish and operate a retail vegetable stand at the southeast corner of 164th Street and Crenshaw Blvd., which was referred to this Commission, has been checked and determined to be in a C-2 (Retail Commercial) Zone, which permits such use. Mr. Monson has been advised and informed that he may operate such activity at this location upon obtaining the necessary City business license.

No action necessary by the Council.

Letter from Asst. to City Engineer Patrick re South Torrance Sewer District No. 2 and transmitting letter from the Health Department of the County of Los Angeles as follows:

"June 1, 1950

"City of Torrance
Torrance, California

Attention: John R. Patrick, Asst. to City Engineer

Gentlemen:

The Health Officer of the County of Los Angeles hereby recommends that proceedings be instituted for the construction of sanitary sewers in the portion of the City of Torrance, as outlined on the attached map as necessary as a health measure. This recommendation is made pursuant to Section 2808 of the Street and Highways Code.

We have made an investigation of the area as shown on the attached map and found that approximately sixty per cent of the residents contacted therein have been and are experiencing trouble with their cesspool sewage disposal systems. The nature of this trouble is inherent with the use of cesspools in areas such as this where soil conditions do not provide good leaching acting. The soil in this area is a fine clay and silt which sifts into the cesspool walls and prevents proper percolation of the effluent within the cesspool causing them to fill up and back into house plumbing fixtures, overflow on surface of the ground and the necessity for frequent pumping and cleaning out and the construction of new cesspools. Many of the residents in this area are disposing of wash and bath waters on the ground to conserve cesspool capacity.

Very truly yours,

KENNETH H. SUTHERLAND, M.D.,
Assistant Health Officer

For and in the absence of
Roy O. Gilbert, M.D.
Los Angeles County Health Officer."

Councilman Drale moved the letter be received and filed as a matter of record and recorded in full in the minutes. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Also transmitted were the following Resolutions prepared by Barnett, Hopen and Smith, in connection with this matter, to be set forth in full in the minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2094

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE SOUTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE, IS NECESSARY AS A HEALTH MEASURE.

"WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Torrance has carefully considered all matters relating to the proposed construction of a sanitary sewer system in the South Torrance Sewer District No. 2, in the City of Torrance, as indicated on Drawing No. 6179, prepared by Barnett, Hopen & Smith, Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, and

"WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2808 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, as amended (Chapter 271, Statutes of 1945), the installation of a sanitary sewer system in the above described district has been recommended by the Health Officer of the County of Los Angeles as necessary as a health measure, and such recommendation has been given in writing and spread upon the minutes of the City Council;

ABG340

"NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

"SECTION 1. That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2808, as amended (Statutes of 1945, Chapter 271) of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, relating to the exemption of proceedings for the construction of sanitary sewers from the provisions of the Special Assessment Investigation, Limitation and Majority Protest Act of 1931, the City Council hereby finds and declares that the necessity exists as a health measure and that the construction of said sanitary sewer system be completed.

"SECTION 2. That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution by the affirmative vote of a minimum of four-fifths of the City Council and its approval by the Mayor and shall cause the same to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of said City; and shall make a record of the passage and adoption thereof in the records of the City Council of said City in the minutes of the meeting at which the same was passed and adopted.

"Passed, approved and adopted this _____ day of _____, A.D., 1950."

Mayor of the City of Torrance,
California

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2094. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

***INSERT

Councilman Powell moved the Mayor set a hearing date for protests. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried. Mayor Haggard then set the time for hearing of protests as 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 1950.

Following recommendations of City Manager Stevens were read:

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For payment to Warren Southwest, Inc., the sum of \$835.30 for furnishing materials to pave the City Yard.

Councilman Drale moved the Council comply with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

BUS DEPARTMENT:

The following recommendations are made in concurrence with the recommendations of the Transportation Committee:

1. That the contract with Mrs. Maybel Banks, for the operation of the Los Angeles Bus Terminal, be extended for one year, with the exception that the hours of operation be changed to meet the present traffic conditions and as outlined in a letter from Mrs. Banks dated Sept. 15, 1950. The new contract to expire September 21, 1951.

Councilman Powell moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. That the City Attorney be authorized to prepare an ordinance banning smoking on City buses.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2095

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, INSTRUCTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PREPARE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IN THE SOUTH TORRANCE SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2, IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AS OUTLINED ON DRAWING NO. 6179, PREPARED BY BARNETT, HOPEN & SMITH, CIVIL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS.

"The City Council of the City of Torrance hereby resolves as follows:

"SECTION 1. That the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to prepare final plans and specifications for said improvement, and that the City Engineer be and is hereby instructed to cause to be performed all necessary work and cause to be prepared all necessary Resolutions, Notices and other required items for proceeding with said improvement and completing the same under the provisions of Division 7 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, known and designated as the "Improvement Act of 1911".

"SECTION 2. That the City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution; shall cause the same to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the City of Torrance; and shall make a record of the passage and adoption of said Resolution in the records of the City Council of said City in the minutes of the meeting at which the same was passed and adopted.

"Passed, approved and adopted this _____ day of _____, A.D., 1950"

Mayor of the City of Torrance,
California

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2095. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

3. That the contract for tire rental with Goodrich Tire and Rubber Company, be renewed for one year. The new rate of rental to be \$.01 per mile, against \$.00886 under the old contract.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

4. That a used, 1945, 45-passenger White bus be purchased from the L.A. Transit Company for the sum of \$5,064 plus sales tax. This bus has not been used for over eighteen months, as the company has switched to the operation of Diesel motor buses.

Councilman Blount moved to comply with the recommendation. Motion was seconded by Councilman Spelman. Discussion followed, with Councilman Drale opposing the purchase of this bus and urging the purchase of two or three small buses to operate on the runs where passenger travel is light. Councilman Blount informed him that such a program was under consideration but that this large bus was needed now for the Los Angeles run. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale.

Letter from City Manager Stevens reporting on matters referred to him for recommendation as follows:

- (a) Court Clerk - recommending no civil service examination as original title had merely been restored and duties had not been changed.
- (b) Police Woman - recommending promotional examination be held, and restricted to personnel with experience in the Police Department; and that Ordinance No. 526 be amended or repealed accordingly.

Councilman Powell moved that Ordinance No. 526 be made the subject of discussion at the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

Letter was read from City Manager Stevens urging opposition to Proposition No. 1 on the November ballot and explaining in detail what its passage would mean to the City of Torrance. Mayor Haggard asked that the newspapers give the matter as much space and publicity as possible. Councilman Powell moved that copies of Mr. Stevens letter be sent to all civic groups. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from Southern California Edison Company transmitting Grant of Easement to cover the proposed overhang of crossarms and wires to service Tract No. 16700.

RESOLUTION NO. 2096

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR
AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE GRANT OF EASEMENT TO
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY TO SERVE
TRACT NO. 16700

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2096. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Southern California Edison Company transmitting forms of license to cover proposed encroachment of a pole line in Tract No. 9765.

RESOLUTION NO. 2097

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR
AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE LICENSE TO SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY TO FURNISH ELECTRIC-
AL SERVICE TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

APG940

Councilman Spelman moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2097. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2098

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL PERMIT TO A.
A. MARTIN

Councilman Powell moved to dispense with further reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2098. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2099

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL PERMIT TO
CECIL W. SMITH

Councilman Blount moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2099. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 535

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316,
RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED
IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 194.

Councilman Spelman moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 535 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 537

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316,
RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED
IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 196

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 537 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 538

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
TORRANCE RELATING TO APPOINTIVE OFFICES

Councilman Spelman moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion was seconded by Councilman Blount. Councilman Drale interrupted to ask who had requested the Ordinance to be drawn and commented that it had not been cleared through the recently created legislative committee. Councilman Spelman replied that he was responsible for the Ordinance. Motion was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale and Powell. The Ordinance was then read in its entirety by City Clerk Bartlett. Councilmen Drale and Powell both very strongly expressed their opposition to the Ordinance stating that it was discriminatory and unfair to the many committee and commission members faithfully and loyally serving the City. Mayor Haggard replied that the Ordinance did not prevent such persons from being elected to the Council;

that its purpose was to keep politics out of the commissions, etc. Following further discussion, Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 538 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: Drale and Powell. Councilman Powell then moved that copies of the Ordinance be sent to each member of every Commission and Committee and that the roll call vote be shown. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens reported that in connection with the South Torrance Sewer project, plans were well advanced and assessment districts being prepared.

Councilman Blount stated that he would like to "plug" for a traffic light at Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Boulevards.

Councilman Powell again urged everyone to attend the Police Show Saturday night.

Councilman Powell suggested that the City Clerk or someone compliment the management of the Torrance Municipal Airport on the way the Governor was received and cared for when he recently stopped at the airport.

Mr. Tom Babbitt, member of the Recreation Commission and ex-member of the Civil Service Board, expressed opposition to the adoption of Ordinance No. 538 as discriminating against men who, in his opinion, would be better fitted to act as Councilman because of having served as a commissioner or committeeman than someone who had never served in any such capacity.

Mr. Kenneth Bright also protested the adoption of Ordinance No. 538 on the same ground.

Mr. Jack White, of North Torrance, a resident of the Truman Browne tract, advised he would be glad to organize a committee from the tract to meet with the Council and subdividers on the cesspool problem. A representative of Seaside Heights urged that such a meeting be held as soon as possible as three more cesspools in that district had filled up within the past week. Discussion followed. It being unanimously agreed that such a meeting would be useless without legal counsel, Councilman Blount moved that such a meeting be called within two or three days following the next agenda meeting. It being unanimously agreed that in the event the City Attorney was unable to attend such meeting other legal counsel would be present, motion was seconded by Councilman Spelman and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Inquiry was made by a man in the audience as to the progress being made on Earl Street and City Manager Stevens advised that a majority of the people have agreed to give an easement.

Discussion was had on an open drainage ditch at Truman Browne Homes which was supposed to have been fenced in and City Manager Stevens advised that such a fence was a condition contained in the maps now being held up by the Council.

Commander Mason inquired as to whether cesspools under water would be inoperative and City Manager Stevens stated that such a situation would depend on the construction of the cesspool and the ground in that particular area.

Oral request was made for permission to occupy trailer at 17005 Crenshaw Blvd. during construction of home and the gentleman was asked to take out a building permit and then make his request in writing.

Councilman Powell moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

APR 10 1960

At 9:48 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned.
Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried.


CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:


MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE